

Chaotic Tales #1: The Revenge Match

by Erik Hentell

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PANEL 1 - DENSE FOREST

The tops of the trees roll like great green hills and spikes against a clear blue sky.

PANEL 2 - TREE TOP AND BRANCH

Resting in the shadow of a tree's foliage is the silhouette of a bird of unknown type, sitting on a branch and casually looking out into the forest below.

PANEL 3 - THE OWL

The bird is an owl, but the exact type of owl is unclear and it has eyes of an unusual type; completely black, but with glittering reflections that suggest some constellation of stars behind the glassy, reflective outer shell of the eyes, though of course this is impossible.

PANEL 4 - THE OWL

The owl sees something. It's head snaps in the direction of a newfound interest.

OWL

!

PANEL 5 - DENSE FOREST

The owl spreads its great wings and launches off the branch, heading toward an unknown target somewhere in the distance.

PAGE 2

PANEL 1 - FOREST PATH

In the mass of tree trunks, branches, bushes and foliage, there is a foot path the winds around the the old wooden columns of the forest. The path has been made through the padding of feet and not by any other artificial forming.

On this path are three people, two walking side-by-side while one walks ahead with no small amount of determination and focus.

MAGGIE, the sorcerer of the group, wears a mask as part of her magical tradition and wears simple clothes, a cloak and a cap with an ad-hoc assembly of pouches for various herbs. She carries with her a magic staff of some basic design. She is quietly speaking with BECKA, the warrior of the group, who wears an equally ad-hoc assembly of armor, pieces of which were purchased or found here and there. She carries a large backpack filled with various items and wears an annoyed expression on her face.

MAGGIE

...I don't know. He was fine before we went into the shop, but then he just came barging out...

BECKA

Well, he better let us in on it soon. I'm getting tired of walking around with no explanation.

PANEL 2 - BRIGHELLO

BRIGHELLO is walking ahead of the group, looking very seriously at a worn map. As the scout of the group, he wears light clothing, but has an unusually large pendant hanging from his neck that features gold framing around a glossy black oval jewel of unknown type.

PANEL 3 – BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka turns to Maggie, who, despite her mask, seems as confused as Becka is annoyed.

BECKA

Do you think there's a hidden village around here?

MAGGIE

I haven't heard of any.

BECKA

Maybe there's a vault or something?

MAGGIE

Out here? Ruins, maybe.

PANEL 4 – BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka and Maggie are startled out of their conversation as Brighello starts yelling wildly.

BRIGHELLO (*from off-panel*)

YES! IT'S HERE!

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello excitedly presents a map while pointing at something hidden from sight by some bushes.

BRIGHELLO

BECKA! MAGGIE! I FOUND THE POND!
THE MAP WAS RIGHT!

PANEL 2 - HIDDEN POND

Brighello looks triumphantly at Becka and Maggie while gesturing towards a pond, encircled and obscured by bushes and trees.

BRIGHELLO

Well?

PANEL 3 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka is noticeably irritated and Maggie is just confused.

BECKA

What the hell is this?

MAGGIE

Is there treasure in the pond?

PANEL 4 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello proudly points to a location on his map, which indicates both the pond and a winding path to some kind of destination.

BRIGHELLO

Even better! This pond is a
portal to the city of Olorea!

PANEL 5 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Maggie, the more reserved of the two, physically expresses confusion while Becka is just outraged.

BECKA

OLOREA! Are you nuts? There's no way we're ranked high enough to go there!

MAGGIE

Becka's right, this seems a little... adventurous...

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello has folded the map and is putting folded map in a pocket as his posture shows his dismissal of their concerns.

BRIGHELLO

We'll be fine! We're ranked plenty high enough to compete, now come on!

PANEL 2 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka adopts an equally indignant pose, while Maggie appears to be somewhat reluctant in her body language.

BECKA

This is about Mezatina, isn't it? Did you find out her team was heading there?

MAGGIE

I really hope that's not true. She beat us fairly, you know.

PANEL 3 - BECKA

Becka continues her angry tirade while Maggie is quietly watching the exchange.

BECKA

You know, we told you it wasn't smart for us to compete against her. You should just get over it and not double down on stupid.

PANEL 4 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello's posture goes slack and he stares at Becka. His face is suggestive of indignant surprise or at least some shock.

PANEL 5 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

Brighello searches the ground for something.

BECKA

?

MAGGIE

?

PANEL 6 - BRIGHELLO'S HAND ON A ROCK

Brighello finds a respectably-sized rock by one of the bushes.

PANEL 7 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

Brighello hurls the rock, hitting Becka in the head.

SFX

WHACK!

BECKA

OW!

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello starts yelling at Becka and Maggie, again pointing to the pond.

BRIGHELLO

THERE IS NO REASON WE SHOULD HAVE
LOST TO TEAM RAVENWALD AND WE ARE
PLENTY GOOD ENOUGH TO BEAT THEM!

BRIGHELLO

NOW I'VE GOTTEN US THIS FAR SO
HAVE A LITTLE GODDAMN FAITH AND
JUMP IN THE POND!

PANEL 2 - BRIGHELLO AND THE POND

Brighello jumps into the pond with a big splash.

SFX

SPLOOSH

PANEL 3 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

The two look at each other. From Becka's expression and Maggie's posture, it is clear there is great reluctance.

BECKA

...

MAGGIE

...

PANEL 4 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Maggie, in a resigned sort of way, waves her staff in the air.

MAGGIE

Well... he's right. We wouldn't
be as highly ranked without him.

BECKA

Let's just get this over with.

BECKA

This is so stupid...

PANEL 5 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Maggie's magic creates a spherical force field around the two.

PANEL 6 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

The force field levitates into the air towards the pond.

PANEL 7 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

The bubble lowers gently into the pond.

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PANEL 1 - FOREST

On a distant tree there extends, in the shadow of the treetop, a branch with something in silhouette perched on it.

PANEL 2 - FOREST - DAY

The perched thing spreads its great wings...

PANEL 3 - FOREST

...and flies off into the distance.

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE - DARK WATER

The water is dark and appears endlessly deep. Brighello swims in front, eagerly moving with little bubbles of air pushing out of his mouth. Far behind, in Maggie's force field, Becka and Maggie follow along.

PANEL 2 - BRIGHELLO - DARK WATER

Something takes control of Brighello, surprising and jolting him. Air bubbles start to flow out of his mouth.

PANEL 3 - BRIGHELLO - DARK WATER

The unknown force takes control of Brighello flipping him upside down, making the stream of air bubbles become a eruption.

PANEL 4 - BRIGHELLO - DARK WATER

Brighello, in surprise and panic, is dragged feet-first towards a distant light. His eyes are wide and air is now freely traveling from his lungs to the water.

PANEL 5 - BECKA AND MAGGIE - DARK WATER

From the safety of the force field, Becka and Maggie observe Brighello's distress.

BECKA

Well, it looks like dumbass is going to drown...

MAGGIE

I wish he wasn't so impulsive.

PANEL 6 - BECKA AND MAGGIE - DARK WATER

The duo follow Brighello as he's dragged off towards the light in the deep dark waters.

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello's head bursts above the water line, coughing and spewing.

BRIGHELLO

GASP! *HACK* *COUGH*

PANEL 2 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

As Brighello coughs and spews, Maggie's force field bursts out of the water.

SFX

SPLSHH!

PANEL 3 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka and Maggie both look up, and in so doing, Becka becomes visibly panicked. Maggie's posture indicates fear as she puts out a hand to prevent Becka's panic from escalating.

BECKA

WHAT THE SHI-

MAGGIE

Easy, easy...

PANEL 3 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA, MAGGIE & OLOREA

Olorea is at the bottom of a massive, world-sized air bubble. Although Brighello, Becka and Maggie feel physically like they are at the bottom of the bubble looking up, they are actually at the top, looking directly down to the city itself. The city, due to the size of the bubble, appears small from distance, and the waters swirl and flow from around the bubble to the city's edges.

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka immediately turns to Brighello, screaming at him in rage. Maggie is trying to calm her friend down. Brighello, for his part, is unconcerned and is pointing in some direction while looking at his unfolded map, held above the water to prevent water damage.

BECKA

HEY YOU NUMBSKULL! WHAT DID YOUR
GODDAMN MAP SAY ABOUT THIS, HUH?
WE'RE ABOUT TO FALL TO OUR DEATHS
HERE!

MAGGIE

Calm down, please!

BRIGHELLO

Maggie, get Becka to shut up. The
map says we'll be okay if we
don't get too high above the
water.

PANEL 2 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

The trio float down the wall of the bubble,
heading towards a pier at the edge of the city.
Brighello is in the lead with Becka and Maggie
following behind.

BRIGHELLO

The flow of the water will take
us straight to the pier.

PANEL 3 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

The three arrive at the bottom of the pier's dock.
A ladder is positioned there and Brighello reaches
for it to pull himself out of the water.

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello pulls himself out of the water, drenched, and notices something as he does so.

VOICE (*off-frame*)

Oh, ho, ho!

BRIGHELLO

!

PANEL 2 - OLD FISHERMAN

The voice belongs to an OLD FISHERMAN, looking onward with amusement as he ties up his boat to the dock.

OLD FISHERMAN

Well, now! It's been a while since I seen someone swimming into Olorea! What happened to your boat? Did you not have one?

PANEL 3 - BRIGHELLO AND THE OLD FISHERMAN

Brighello approaches the old fisherman, who has not stopped being amused. Unacknowledged, Becka and Maggie levitate in Maggie's force field onto the pier.

BRIGHELLO

Hey, old man. Can you tell me if there's a competition happening soon?

OLD FISHERMAN

A competition? And you swam in? Well, there's one tomorrow.

PANEL 4 - TAVERN SIGN - DAY

The sign is one of those old-style hanging signs that one sees in recreations of old medieval

buildings. On the sign is painted a pattern with the words "The Wistful Tavern"

CAPTION

You can sign up at The Wistful Tavern, just up the road...

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE - TAVERN

Brighello, Becka and Maggie enter the door.

PANEL 2 - TAVERN MAID - TAVERN

A TAVERN MAID approaches the group. She smiles cheerfully and behind her is the tavern, a wood construction with a fireplace, plenty of tables, food and drink. The kind of place that promises a warm meal on cold day and a cozy place to relax on a spring evening. It bustles with life, filled with people eating, drinking, laughing and telling stories.

MAID

Welcome to The Wistful Tavern!
Are you competing? We have great
deals for highly ranked
competitors!

PANEL 3 - BRIGHELLO AND TAVERN MAID - TAVERN

Brighello, with a dissatisfied look on his face, shows a card to the Tavern Maid, who expresses some surprise.

TAVERN MAID

Oh! Uh... well, we don't often
get... uh... ranks at that level,
but I can offer you a ten percent
discount on drinks...

PANEL 4 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE - TAVERN

Brighello, Becka and Maggie sit at a table, with Brighello at grimly one end, Maggie somewhat uncomfortable at the other and Becka glowering between them.

PANEL 5 - BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Brighello suddenly comes to attention as he notices something.

PANEL 6 - MEZATINA, STONEWALL, INSTRUISTO - TAVERN

MEZATINA, STONEWALL, AND INSTRUISTO, known as Team Ravenwald, approach Brighello, Becka and Maggie from the other side of the table. Mezatina is dressed loose and light, similar to Brighello, but also sports a large overcoat with filled pockets. Of note is a large pendant around her neck, similar to that of Brighello. Stonewall is similar to Becka, but without the ad-hock appearance, being covered in a single well-made suit of armor, armed with blades of various sizes. Instruisto, much like Maggie, wears a mask with a similar design. His outfit, unlike her own, is made of higher quality materials and his staff is more ornate in design.

Mezatina looks gleefully at Brighello.

MEZATINA

Wooo! Look at what just dragged itself into port! What did you do, swim in?

PANEL 7 - BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Brighello grits his teeth in anger.

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PANEL 1 – INSTRUISTO AND MAGGIE - TAVERN

Time has passed. The various team members have paired off and are in different parts of the tavern. Instruisto and Maggie are talking very pleasantly at a table at one end of the tavern.

CAPTION

Later...

INSTRUISTO

...well, you never know! The student defeats the master eventually!

MAGGIE

Eek! Don't say that! You mentored me! I'll never be better than you!

INSTRUISTO

I'm shocked that you would say that! Don't limit yourself!

PANEL 2 – BECKA AND STONEWALL – TAVERN

Stonewall and Becka are talking casually at the bar as they drink.

STONEWALL

...yeah, the fishing around here is great, but you have to be careful. If you're in a boat and it goes up the water wall, you'll tip over. The boat'll fall right on top of you.

BECKA

That's some dumb, right there. Why don't they do something to fix that?

STONEWALL
I dunno...

PANEL 3 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Mezatina and Brighello sit opposite each other at the table where the two groups met, locked in a staring contest. Mezatina smiles while Brighello fumes.

PANEL 4 - MEZATINA - TAVERN

Mezatina leans in towards Brighello.

MEZATINA

You know, it must feel terrible to try so hard and fail so completely. I almost feel bad for you.

MEZATINA

Almost.

PANEL 5 - BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Brighello, his face looking like it is about to pop, can't help but answer her taunts.

BRIGHELLO

You won because of a fluke!

PANEL 6 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Mezatina just smiles back.

MEZATINA

We won because you picked a fight against a stronger team!

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Brighello slams his fist on the table.

SFX
WHAM!

BRIGHELLO

You won because you got lucky!
We're the whole reason you're
here! Your ranking went up on our
backs!

PANEL 2 - MEZATINA - TAVERN

Mezatina smiles and shrugs, unimpressed, but
clearly enjoying the moment.

MEZATINA

So? That's the way the game is
played. You challenged us,
remember? Besides, what do you
plan to do about it? You can't
compete here. Your ranking is too
low!

PANEL 3 - BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Brighello leans over the table towards Mezatina,
not really impressing her with his angry face.

BRIGHELLO

Actually, we can! We're going to
invoke the Ranking Rule and use
our rank as collateral!

PANEL 4 - BRIGHELLO AND MEZATINA - TAVERN

For once Mezatina doesn't have a smile on her
face, but is visibly a little dumbfounded.

MEZATINA
Uh...

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PANEL 1 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Mezatina's face has gone from smug and gleeful to concerned. Brighello sits again, but still angry.

MEZATINA

...that means if you lose, you'll go back down to zero...

PANEL 2 - BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Brighello finally notices her hesitation and smirks as if he's already won.

BRIGHELLO

We won't.

PANEL 3 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO - TAVERN

Mezatina is visibly worried. Brighello, seeing her hesitation, smile triumphantly.

MEZATINA

...this could be a really bad ide-

BRIGHELLO

It isn't.

PANEL 5 - MEZATINA - TAVERN

Mezatina still tries to reason with Brighello.

MEZATINA

You can't beat us.

PANEL 6 - BRIGHELLO AND MEZATINA - TAVERN

Brighello stands and leans toward a confused Mezatina again, a serious look on his face.

BRIGHELLO (*large text*)

YES. WE. WILL.

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PANEL 1 - OUTSIDE OF ARENA

The arena is vaguely like the Colosseum in Ancient Rome, being built as a large oblong open-topped building. The outer walls are covered with sculptures and etchings of heroic figures and sea life, ranging from fish to plants to mythical sea beings. The columns and arches are in a rococo style, sculpted with more flora and fauna in mind.

PANEL 2 - INSIDE THE ARENA

The interior of the arena is oval, just like the outside. The ground of the arena is relatively flat, but earthen, with no grass or other type of foliage. Strewn throughout the arena floor are massive sculptures of fish in various poses, swirling octopus tentacles and a few more abstract shapes. The floor of the arena is surrounded by sculpted stone seats on which sit an eager crowd. At one end of the arena is a special platform for the ANNOUNCER, who speaks to the audience

PANEL 3 - ANNOUNCER'S PLATFORM

The Announcer stands at the platform, in a ceremonial robe, arms extended to gather the audience's attention.

ANNOUNCER (*yelling text*)

Dear friends! We are gathered here today to witness another chapter in our world's great story of competition! Are you prepared for adventure?

SFX (*audience*)

RAAAAAAAH!

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PANEL 1 – TEAM RAVENWALD

Mezatina, Instruisto and Stonewall are standing at one of the long sides of the arena floor. Behind them a closed gate that marks their entrance into the arena. Instruisto stands simply, but because of his mask, his expression cannot be determined. Stonewall waits with the calm demeanor of a veteran. Mezatina, however, has a concerned look on her face.

ANNOUNCER (*yelling text, off-panel*)

Behold Team Ravenwald! They have made their first journey to our city to add to their impressive glory!

PANEL 2 – TEAM HAMMERHOUSE

Brighello, Becka, and Maggie are at a closed gate at a spot in the wall directly opposite Mezatina and her team. Brighello carries a look of dark determination, but Becka and Maggie are visibly unhappy with their situation.

ANNOUNCER (*yelling text, off-panel*)

Opposing our heroes are Team Hammerhouse! These upstart warriors risk their all by invoking the Ranking Rule! Will their gambit succeed? Or shall we be witness to their fall?

PANEL 3 – TEAM RAVENWALD

Mezatina, Instruisto and Stonewall, prepare themselves. Mezatina grips the pendant hanging from her neck. Stonewall adjusts his armor while Instruisto stands with his staff at the ready.

ANNOUNCER (*yelling text, off-panel*)

Is Team Ravenwald prepared for battle?

TEAM RAVENWALD (*yelling as one*)
YES!

PANEL 4 – TEAM HAMMERHOUSE

Brighello clutches the pendant around his neck and appears eager to jump into the battle, but Becka and Maggie have very dissatisfied looks on their faces.

ANNOUNCER (*yelling text*)
Is Team Hammerhouse prepared for battle?

BRIGHELLO (*yelling text*)
YES!

BECKA
Yeah...

MAGGIE
....

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PANEL 1 - THE SKY ABOVE OLOREA

Quietly and unseen, a silhouette of a bird flies to the top of one of the tentacle sculptures on the arena floor.

PANEL 2 - THE OWL

It is the owl, landed from an unknown route and staring down at the arena.

PANEL 3 - TEAM RAVENWALD AND TEAM HAMMERHOUSE

Team Ravenwald and Team Hammerhouse rush towards each other, racing to meet at the center of the arena. Brighello looks full of grit, but Becka and Maggie don't seem to share his enthusiasm. Mezatina, Instruisto and Stonewall wear faces of experienced focus.

ANNOUNCER (*yelling text*)
LET THE CONTEST BEGIN!

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PANEL 1 – MAGGIE AND INSTRUISTO

Maggie attacks first, firing lightning at Instruisto, who blocks with a magic shield.

SFX (*lightning*)
KRA-KOW!

SFX (*shield*)
Szzvvvapp!

PANEL 2 – BECKA AND STONEWALL

Stonewall swings a sword at Becka, but she ducks and tackles him.

BECKA
Hraaagh!

SFX (*armor clashing*)
CLANG

PANEL 3 – BECKA AND STONEWALL

Stonewall expertly rolls onto his back and kick-flips Becka as they both fall down.

BECKA
Aaugh!

PANEL 4 – MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO

Brighello, clutching his pendant, moves extremely fast, but only in straight lines. Mezatina, while clutching her pendant is able to teleport from spot to spot as Brighello chases after her, laughing at him as he makes each attempt.

MEZATINA
Run, baby, run! How do you feel about winning, now?

BRIGHELLO
rrRRAAAUUGHH!

SFX (*teleporting sound*)
Vzzzt!

SFX (*teleporting sound*)
Vzzt!

SFX (*teleporting sound*)
Vzzt!

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PANEL 1 - BECKA

Becka has rushed to one of the smaller sculptures and, in a demonstration of her strength, lifts off the ground.

BECKA

Hrrghh...

PANEL 2 - STONEWALL

The sculpture hurtles through the air, forcing Stonewall to jump out of the way as it crashed down on the spot where he used to be.

BECKA (*off-panel*)

-ggrah!

STONEWALL

Hmph!

SFX

SKRAASHH!

PANEL 3 - MAGGIE

Maggie casts a spell into the ground, sending energy straight into it.

SFX

Vsszh!

PANEL 4 - INSTRUISTO

The ground under Instruisto's feet suddenly rears up, encasing him to the ankles.

INSTRUISTO

!

SFX (*ground*)

rrRRrr

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PANEL 1 - STONEWALL AND BECKA

Stonewall has rushed towards Becka and strikes at her with a sword, but she almost evades as the blade gets wedged in between the plates of her armor.

STONEWALL

HA!

SFX

kCHANG

BECKA

!

PANEL 2 - INSTRUISTO

Instruisto slams his staff into the ground, magically causing the ground to shatter and free him. He is unaware of a clump of ground rising behind him.

SFX (*blast*)

svVAAP

SFX (*ground*)

rrRRRrrr

PANEL 3 - INSTRUISTO

The clump of ground behind Instruisto suddenly encases him, catching him by surprise.

INSTRUISTO

Ah!

PANEL 4 - STONEWALL AND BECKA

Becka knocks the blade out from where it was wedged by the plate of her armor. Stonewall uses this to his advantage and rushes her.

BECKA
Grraaa!

SFX (*sword and armor*)
Clank!

PANEL 5 – STONEWALL AND BECKA

Stonewall picks up Becka, positioning her for a body slam on the ground.

STONEWALL
Hrmph!

BECKA
Oh, ffff-

PANEL 6 – STONEWALL AND BECKA

Stonewall smacks Becka into the ground, knocking her out.

SFX
WHAM

BECKA
Ugh!

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PANEL 1 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO

Mezatina is still teleporting and taunting Brighello.

SFX (*teleporting sound*)
Vzzt!

BRIGHELLO (*yelling*)
RRRRAAAUGH! STAY STILL!

MEZATINA
Haha! Why?

PANEL 2 - THE OWL

As it sits perched on the sculpture, the owl watches the action below.

PANEL 3 - THE OWL'S EYES

The black eyes of the owl again look like there is a constellation of stars in them.

PANEL 4 - MEZATINA

Mezatina teleports by one of the larger tentacle sculptures.

SFX (*teleporting sound*)
Vzzt!

PANEL 5 - THE PILLAR ABOVE MEZATINA'S HEAD

Near the top of the pillar there is an explosive crack, separating the pillar's top from the body of the sculpture.

SFX (*cracking material*)
KRRNCH

PANEL 6 - MEZATINA

The top falls not far from Mezatina. Mezatina is

startled, and that surprise is distracting her as the main pillar body inexplicably begins to over.

SFX (*landing*)
CRUNCH

MEZATINA
!

PANEL 7 - MEZATINA

Mezatina looks up as the falling pillar casts a shadow across her face. She grips the pendant, but no teleportation effect is happening.

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PANEL 1 - FALLING PILLAR

The pillar falls the ground, smashing to pieces and clouding the area with dust.

SFX
WHAM

PANEL 2 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO

Not far away Brighello has Mezatina in his arms, having carried her away in the last moment before the crash. He looks back and the rubble.

BRIGHELLO
Wow...

PANEL 3 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO

Brighello looks at Mezatina, not noticing that she is quietly reaching for something.

BRIGHELLO
Wow. You would have been crushed.

MEZATINA
Yeah...

PANEL 4 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO

Without warning, Mezatina shoves a small wand-like instrument into Brighello, electrocuting him with some kind of magic manifestation.

SFX
ZZAP

BRIGHELLO
What hap-AAUUGH!

PANEL 5 - MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO

Brighello has fallen to the ground while Mezatina

stands over him with a smile on her face.

ANNOUNCER (*off-panel*)

The battle is won! The Ravenwald team has defeated the majority of their opponents! They are the victors!

MEZATINA

Sorry, baby. Love and war and all that.

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PANEL 1 - OLOREA SIDEWALK

The competition has long been over and all the spectators have gone to wherever it is they go when a competition ends. Brighello is sitting on the sidewalk with his back leaning on a building wall, staring off into space. Becka and Maggie stand some distance away and staring at him in frustration.

PANEL 2 - OLOREA SIDEWALK

Mezatina, Stonewall and Instruisto are standing on the other side of the street, conversing amongst themselves. Mezatina casts a sympathetic glance towards Brighello.

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PANEL 1 – ALL SIX CHARACTERS

Mezatina crosses the street to Brighello, carrying a box.

PANEL 2 – MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO

Mezatina crouches by Brighello, offering the box, while he stares off into space.

MEZATINA

Hey. Thanks for saving me back there. Look, this is an Endless Box. We filled it up with a bunch of stuff that you can sell off. After that you can sell the box. It should hold you out for a while.

PANEL 3 – MEZATINA AND BRIGHELLO – DAY

The box placed in Brighello's lap, Mezatina gives Brighello a kiss on the cheek. If Brighello notices any of it, he doesn't show a response.

SFX (*kiss*)

smek

MEZATINA

You guys'll be back on your feet. Don't worry.

PANEL 4 – ALL SIX CHARACTERS

Mezatina, Stonewall and Instruisto walk away. Brighello maintains his catatonic state.

PANEL 5 – BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE – DAY

Maggie takes the box from Brighello's lap.

PANEL 6 – BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE – DAY

Maggie puts the box in Becka's backpack.

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

Brighello walks along the length of the pier while Becka and Maggie follow some distance behind.

PANEL 2 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

Brighello stands at the edge of the pier, looking towards the water. Becka and Maggie are still some distance behind.

PANEL 3 - BRIGHELLO

Brighello's face is a mask of emotional devastation.

PANEL 4 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

Brighello dives into the water from the end of the pier, with Becka and Maggie standing behind him.

PANEL 5 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka and Maggie look at each other.

PANEL 6 - BECKA AND MAGGIE

Becka and Maggie levitate up in a force field conjured by Maggie.

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PANEL 1 - BRIGHELLO, BECKA AND MAGGIE

Brighello half-heartedly swims back to the spot from which he arrived. Becka and Maggie are half-submerged in Maggie's bubble and they follow him up the wall.